

Faith Healing Menace, Says Noted Doctor

Church Will Get Little Support From Medicine if It Takes Up Practice, Asserts Dr. David Orr Edson

Says Mind Alone Improves

Thinks Good May Be Done if Clinics Are Opened With Physicians in Charge

If the Church invades the sphere of the neurologist it will get little support from the medical profession, in the opinion of Dr. David Orr Edson, of 49 West Seventy-second Street. He does not believe in faith healing as a pathological practice and feels that clinics in conjunction with the church would only be practical in so far as they were conducted by medical men.

When the Commission to Consider the Fuller Recognition of the Ministry of Healing presents its report next week at the general convention of the Episcopal Church, in Portland, Ore., it is understood that one of its chief recommendations will be for greater unity between physicians and clergymen in ministering to the mentally and physically afflicted.

Asked yesterday if he thought their interests might be more closely linked, Dr. Edson, who is a widely known nerve specialist, remarked that "physicians are constantly dealing with the spiritual vicissitudes of individuals—not as clergymen or as physicians, but as human brothers."

Mind Not Part of Body

"The trouble is that clergymen do not believe that the human mind is part of a mechanism," asserted Dr. Edson. "Physicians have always had trouble relegating any part of the body to its proper place in the general mechanism. In the old days when a man had an ache of some kind it was immediately ascribed to a displaced deity. But bit by bit medicine and science have been able to conquer these prejudices and account for nearly every kind of pain."

"The mind is the last part to be given its place, and the clergy is trying to keep it out of the mechanism in order to sustain their premise that the human mind is in direct communication with God. They resent the place that is given the mind by physicians. They say: 'No! God speaks through us.'"

"By our understanding and treatment of the mind we physicians have taken away their job from them. We have also finished our own job of making the mechanism complete."

Dr. Edson has made a study of the subject of faith healing. He was deeply interested when James Moore Hickson was here operating in Trinity parish. He thinks that faith healing, where it relates to pathology of the body, is dangerous in its influence because it is not effective. He has a theory that the subdued and reverential atmosphere of the Church, the environment of sympathy and encouragement, the faith in the heart of the sick one, are all contributory to the improvement that is apparent in some cases.

Improved, Never Healed
"It is true," resumed Dr. Edson, "that the sick are sometimes improved for the moment, but they are not healed. A man may be made more Spartan in his endurance. He may be stimulated mentally. He may even live longer as a result of it, but he is not

Leaders of Woman's Party Confer



They are discussing "a woman's bill of rights" on the estate of Mrs. H. O. Havemeyer, Palmer Hill, Stamford, Conn. From left to right—Mrs. Havemeyer, Mrs. Albert Cram, Miss Louise Merritt and Mrs. Cutson Borglum.

really healed. And while 'faith healing' may have its uses, it does not compare with what doctors can do and are doing physiologically and psychologically every day.

"I grant you that it would be a good thing if the churches opened clinics, but only provided they were in charge of competent physicians. They should not be made a short cut for clergymen to a knowledge of nervous diseases. We are not trying to keep the church out of the practice of medicine, but there is no short cut to becoming a physician or specialist and if the clergy take this up seriously, they must conform to the laws and regulations of medical practice. They will have to be similarly trained."

"As things are now, medical men would look no more kindly on the entrance of the clergy into the field of healing than if the day laborer invaded it."

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Open Old Mine In Effort to Get To Trapped Men

Fight Against Time Continues Half Mile Under Surface Where the Adjoining Shaft Connects

47 Believed Still Alive

One in Entombed Party Once Before Saved Seven by Cutting Off Gas

Special Dispatch to The Tribune
JACKSON, Calif., Aug. 29.—In a last desperate attempt to save the forty-seven men trapped by fire in the depths of the Argonaut gold mine, digging in the adjoining Kennedy mine was renewed this afternoon in an effort to effect a juncture with the Argonaut shaft 4,200 feet below the surface. H. M. Wolfen, superintendent of the State Bureau of Safety, announced that a hole could be cut through in two or three days. Hope of finding the men alive, however, grows fainter every hour.

Earlier in the day the Argonaut superintendent, Virilio Gabarini, said that his workers expected to establish communication within eighteen hours, but this hope was abandoned when volumes of nauseating gas began pouring from the Muldoon shaft of the Argonaut, causing the would-be rescuers to fear that all who were imprisoned on Sunday at midnight already had perished.

Families and fellow workers of the trapped men remained all day and night at the mouth of the pit from which gold has been taken at the rate of \$1,000,000 a year, clinging stubbornly to the hope that their fathers, husbands and friends still live.

Making Rapid Progress
Superintendent Wolfen reported soon after the first Kennedy crew came to the surface shortly before noon that

Montreal Girls Form Short-Skirt League

MONTREAL, Aug. 29.—Twenty of Montreal's smartest, and prettiest girls, rebelling against the attempt of style creators to foist long skirts on women, have formed a "No-Longer-Skirt League." Members are pledged to cling to the abbreviated variety and do all they can to induce other young women to keep their skirts short.

The sweat-begrimed men were making far better progress in re-tunneling than was at first expected.

Wolfen said he believed there was pure air enough at the bottom of the mine to keep the men alive until they can be rescued through the old drift of the Kennedy mine, which is 600 feet long and leads from the 3,600-foot level of the Kennedy shaft to a point considerably below the fire region in the Argonaut. It is expected that it will require about three days' time to bore through the soft earth, according to mine experts. Tracks are being laid in the old drift as fast as the way is cleared.

Upon the ability of one of the entombed miners to duplicate a feat established in Butte, Mont., some years ago when he saved himself and twenty-five companions in a similar disaster rests the additional hope that the trapped men will be still alive when the rescuers reach them.

This man is E. Miller. In the Butte disaster he gathered his fellow victims about him and then set them to the task of building a bulkhead, the cracks of which were chinked with mud, effectively cutting off the deadly gas fumes. They remained in their self-made cell for four days, and were rescued none the worse for their experience. If Miller fails this time his fate, as well as that of his companions, is sealed.

Workers Change Tactics

This is the verdict to-night of those who have been directing the work of rescue, and who to-day decided to change their tactics of pouring water in the gaping hole from which clouds of smoke and steam and nauseating fumes continue to pour in defiance of all efforts to check them.

It was shortly after midnight that the new line of attack on the flames was decided upon and crews were sent down as far as the 2,600-foot level to cut

away timbers and feed them to the flames in the hope that the fire would burn itself out.

An hour or so later ten men led by representatives of the United States Bureau of Mine, equipped with oxygen helmets, penetrated to the 2,700-foot level and discovered that the fire was gradually rising. Canary birds they carried with them were dead from the gas fumes when brought to the surface.

At the same time a second party was sent to the 3,600-foot level of the adjoining Kennedy mine and began digging in the hope of opening a 600-foot tunnel into the Argonaut in time to reach the entombed miners.

Among the oldtime miners, the veterans of the business, there is a fixed belief that unless Miller was able before yesterday to erect a wall to check the seepage of gases all the trapped miners are now dead. These men say the gases creep into every drift and tunnel.

The scenes at the mouth of the tunnel, where mothers, wives and relatives of the doomed men have huddled about ever since the first news of the disaster spread like an electric current through the town, are pitiable to watch. Some give full reign to their emotions and others stare wide-eyed and with set lips, stoically waiting the final verdict.

Japanese Are Taking Up Foreign Loans Rapidly
TOKIO, July 17 (By Mail).—Of the

two 4½ per cent sterling loans raised by Japan in London totaling 785,780,000 yen and due in 1925 only 224,000,000 yen remains in foreign hands, Japanese having purchased them during the war in large quantities. Similarly, of the 77,400,000 franc loan due in 1923 only 6,000,000 is held abroad.

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